STATEMENT LAID ON THE TABLE.

MR. R. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Financial Secretary to Government*): Sir, Under Rule 76 of the Travancore Legislative Rules, I beg to lay on the table the following statement of expenditure authorised by the Government under Section 32 of Regulation II of 1108.

Demand.	Amount in Rs.	Particulars.
IV. General Administration. ...	12,000	For the pay of the staff and contingencies of the Commissioner for Franchise and Delimitation, Travancore.
XX. Administration of Justice. ...	4,323	For the Law Revision Committee.
Do. ...	1,500	Under "Fees to Vakils", Sirkar Vakil's Department.
XVII. Medical, Public Health and Sanitation.		
Public Health and Sanitation.	25,000	Under "Prevention of Epidemics".
XXVII. 38. Miscellaneous ...	2,050	For the special Punja Loan Committee to the end of Kumbham 1111.
Do. ...	1,128	For the Agricultural Debt Redemption Committee to the end of Chingam 1111.
XXX. Capital Expenditure— Railways ...	25,000	For payment of additional compensation for the lands acquired for the Chackai—Tampanur extension.

DEMAND FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): Sir, I move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 1,07,000 for (i) payment to the contractors for the construction of the bridge over the Periyar at Neriamangalam—Rs. 37,000, and (ii) Leper Colony at Noornad—Rs. 70,000.

The first item is simply to pay off the bill under the contract for the bridge. The bridge was completed in March 1935; and according

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to the terms of the contract, the bill had to be paid within 12 months. Those 12 months have now elapsed and I now come to the House for the balance of money to pay off the contractors.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know who the contractor was for the Neriamanga'am bridge?

MR. G. B E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): The General Construction Company.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether they are Travancoreans or foreigners?

SADASYA TILAKAN T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): On a point of order. I wish to know whether these questions arise when the Government ask for money to pay the contractor for work done.

PRESIDENT: You are perfectly right. But I am generally indulgent to the members.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know from the member—

PRESIDENT: Will honourable members please wait until the Chief Engineer has finished?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): Under the terms of the contract, a certain time must elapse before payment is made. The stipulation was that the final payment should be made after the bridge had withstood two floods provided that this period shall neither be less than six months nor more than twelve months. That is all.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know where the head office of the General Construction Company is situated?

PRESIDENT: That does not arise as a supplementary question in a demand for a supplementary grant. If the House was considering the original demand for the construction of the bridge or the question of accepting a tender, then perhaps it will be in order, but now the contract has been finished and it is merely the question of paying the money which was withheld from the contractors because the contract was that this money should be withheld until the bridge they had constructed stood the test for 12 months. That test has been satisfied and the balance is now due to the contractors. All other questions do not therefore arise.

MR. K. P. KRISHNA MENON (*Parur*): May I know why the money was not paid within 12 months?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): I could not come to the House earlier. As I said just now, the bridge was completed in March 1935.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): May I know why this amount was not included in the budget?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): It was not then certain as to what amount was due to the contractors.

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MR. K. KUNJUKISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether, in view of the fact that there were not sufficient floods last year, the Government member is of opinion that the bridge has satisfied the test?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): Under the terms of the contract, the bridge had to withstand two floods or the bill had to be paid within 12 months. It has withstood one flood and unfortunately there was no other flood.

PRESIDENT: You could not raise another flood?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): No, Sir.

PRESIDENT: It is a contractual obligation?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): That is all, Sir.

Regarding the leper colony, I ask for Rs. 70,000. This is for the accommodation of the patients in the Noornad Leper Asylum.

There are three estimates which have been sanctioned for that. Two estimates are being worked out now and no funds have been provided for the third estimate. But before the patients are moved into the quarters, it is necessary that some works should be done under the third estimate. Because, once the patients are moved in, the workman cannot do work there. That is the reason why I am asking for this sum of Rs. 70,000. The patients have to be moved in because they are now occupying temporary sheds. It is, therefore, very necessary that this sum should be granted.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Will the whole work be completed if this sum is sanctioned?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): The work will not be finally completed. It will be finally completed only when Government grant more funds. But this supplementary grant is for carrying out the works before the patients are moved in.

The motion was put and carried, and the grant was made.

EDUCATION.

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Sir, I move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 20,000 for the award of grants to new schools and new classes opened since 1106.

From the discussions which took place on the floor of this House, during the last budget session and during the last November session, honourable members will be quite familiar with the recent history of this rather complicated question. It is, therefore, not necessary for me to cover the ground once again. The central fact is that, since 1106, it has not been found possible to give grants to new Vernacular Schools in the State. Owing to financial stringency, year after year, since 1106, we have had to tell the managements of schools newly opened that grants could not be sanctioned. In many cases, schools have been running according to rules and satisfactorily and have been recognised. Yet grants have not been given to them. In the case of Primary

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